

TALLYHO

Serving the men and women of Fighter Country

Luke Air Force Base, Ariz.

607th ACS changes mission, opens school

By Tech. Sgt. Julie Briggs
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 607th Air Control Squadron converts from a deployable unit to a training unit in less than 30 days to ensure air control squadron people throughout the Air Force receive the appropriate training needed to operate ground based command and control radar.

The squadron formally makes the conversion to a field training unit July 6 at a ribbon-cutting ceremony, said Lt. Col. Steve Doss, 607th Air Control Squadron commander.

"After the conversion, we'll no longer deploy as a unit," Doss said. "Instead, we'll be training students to do what we're doing now."

The 607th Snakes are currently conducting a validation course. The course, which is composed of seven students undergoing surveillance technician training, validates the FTU's course work, equipment requirements, manpower requirements, facilities and the training schedule.

The Snakes change in mission is a result of lessons learned during Operation Allied Force in Kosovo, Doss said. During Allied Force, Air Force leaders determined that the best way to ensure air control squadron people receive the training they need to operate in a deployed location was to set up a school house to train new airmen right out of technical school.

"It was a dew-loop problem," Doss said. "To get people upgraded we had to use a few trained people and, at the same time, support exercises and deployments. We just kept getting further behind (with training)."



Tech. Sgt. Edward Dancy, 607th Air Control Squadron surveillance instructor, teaches Airman Derek Sidberry on an operations module.

Overall retention problems throughout the Air Force have also hindered training efforts. To remedy these training woes, Air Force leadership decided the best way to tackle the training problem was to convert one of the eight air control squadrons in the Air Force to a field training unit.

Two training courses are planned for airmen graduating from technical school. One course is for surveillance technicians and the other is for weapons directors. Surveillance technicians will come to Luke after

technical school at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., while weapons directors will come here following controlling school at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla.

The surveillance technicians course is 70 training days and the weapons directors course is 77 training days.

The coursework will get airmen up to basic mission-ready status, Doss said. Once they arrive at their permanent duty station, they will only need an additional 30 days training to attain combat mission-ready status.

Getting airmen up to combat mission ready-status is critical if the air control squadrons are to meet their deployment requirements.

Air control squadrons are rapid reaction ground-based radar units, Doss said. They basically provide surveillance, identification, weapons control and battle management for the theater air component commander.

Surveillance technicians essentially perform early warning and identification.

"They have the big picture; they pick (flying) tracks and identify other aircraft as friend or foe," Doss said. "Weapons directors actually direct aircrews to the fight."

As a schoolhouse, the 607th ACS military manpower strength and the number of civilian employees will remain about the same. However, they are converting about 20 of their maintenance positions to operations positions.

Through attrition and normal permanent change-of-station moves, the conversion should go fairly smoothly personnel-wise, Doss said. And, he said, they'll be ready to take students just four days after their July 6 ribbon cutting.

Air Force announces tech, master sergeants

Team Luke had more than 100 technical and 220 staff sergeants selected for promotion Thursday to master and technical sergeant, respectively.

At Luke, 109 out of 328 eligible technical sergeants and 221 out of 830 staff sergeants were selected for a 33.23 percent selection rate to master sergeant and a 26.63 percent selection rate to technical sergeant.

The Air Force selected 7,536 of 19,269 eligible technical sergeants for promotion to master sergeant and 11,449 of 41,414 eligible staff sergeants for promotion to technical sergeant. This represents an overall 39.1 percent selection rate for the 00E7 cycle and 27.6 percent selection rate for the 00E6 cycle, for an all-time record setting percentage on both counts.

The complete list of selectees is available on the Air Force Personnel Center's World Wide Web Home Page at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil>.

"The increased promotion rates seen in the last few years are partly a result of the return to stable force structure and end-strength levels following years of drawdown," AFPC officials said. "The primary reason for increased promotion rates is our transition to a higher percentage of 'top five' NCOs, previously at 48.5 percent of the enlisted force, now at 52 percent and headed to 56 percent."

People who tested can expect to re-

ceive their score notices in mid-June, allowing them to see just how they stacked up against their counterparts. These score notices allow members to know how their Promotion Fitness Examination and Specialty Knowledge Test scores rank against those they're directly competing against for promotion within their Air Force Specialty Code.

The average selectee score for the master sergeant test cycle was 342.23 points based on the following: 134.17 points for enlisted performance reports; 69.95, Promotion Fitness Exam; 66.19, Specialty Knowledge Test; 31.91, time in grade; 35.74, time in service; and 11.58 points for decorations.

The average selectee has 4.16 years time in grade and 16.87 years in service. Those selected will be promoted to master sergeant from August to July 2001.

The average selectee score for the technical sergeant test cycle was 334.60 points based on the following: 132.77 points for enlisted performance reports; 66.55, Promotion Fitness Exam; 58.93, Specialty Knowledge Test; 44.09, time in grade; 30.24, time in service; and 7.66 points for decorations.

The average technical sergeant selectee has 6.42 years time in grade and 13.93 years in service. Those selected will also be promoted to technical sergeant from August to July 2001.

For a list of Luke master and technical sergeant selectees, see Page 6. (Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Help is on the way ...



Tech. Sgt. Michael Burns
Senior Airman Daniel Nored, 56th Aerospace Medicine Squadron flight medicine technician, tends to a moulaged victim during a major accident response exercise May 31. Volunteers were moulaged to realistically portray injuries people could receive during a major accident. Team Luke periodically conducts a MARE to ensure its people are trained and prepared to respond to crisis situations and accidents involving multiple casualties. The 56th Security Forces and Civil Engineer squadrons as well as some off-base fire rescue teams took part in the exercise.

Action Line



Col. Steve Sargeant
56th FW commander

The 56th Fighter Wing Commander's Action Line is your direct line to me. I get personally involved in every reply. Your ideas and concerns help build a stronger foundation on which we can successfully complete our mission and take care of our people.

Before you call the Action Line though, give Luke's professional experts a

chance to answer your question in concert with your unit chain of command. If the appropriate official is unable to provide a satisfactory response, call me at 856-7011 or send an e-mail to command.actionline@luke.af.mil. Please include your name and telephone number so I can provide a personal reply to your concern. Together we can make Luke a better place to live and work.

Who to call:	
Fraud, waste and abuse hotline	856-6149
Base exchange	935-4652
Commissary	935-3821
Patient advocate	856-9100
Legal assistance	856-6901
Law enforcement desk	856-5970
Housing office	856-7643
Military pay	856-7028
MPF customer service	856-7874
Civil engineer customer service	856-7231

Debit card use at the commissary

Comment: The debit system at the commissary is unreliable. Normally I don't carry a checkbook, so I rely on my debit card for big purchases. Recently I had to run to my car in the theater parking lot to get a check when the system was down. The commissary people were patient, but it also had to be frustrating for them. Last week, I tried to use my debit card, the system failed, and once again, I had to write a check. Is this fixable?

Response: The Defense Commissary Agency is working hard and has improved the system, but it still isn't as reliable as we'd like. In the meantime, carrying a blank check in case of emergency is an excellent idea. An Armed Forces Bank automated teller machine is also in the store for your convenience. I've asked the commissary to track debit system down time, so be sure to let management know if you encounter future problems.



command.actionline
@luke.af.mil
or call,
856-7011

Sortie Scoreboard

Fiscal year 2000 programmed flight training		
	To date	Goal
Sorties flown	25,461	37,902
Flying hours	33,722	49,803
Pilot graduates	550	876
MRT graduates	514	972

Luke people deployed:
AEF 5/6: 45 and AEF 7/8: 78
Others: 6

Luke revises general plan

By Lt. Col. David Brewer
56th Civil Engineer Squadron

During my 22 years in the Air Force, I've never doubted that we're head and shoulders above the other military services. I think it boils down to this: We simply set the right standards for all facets of our Air Force.

For example, we recruit the right people, we train and equip them, and we value them as our greatest asset. In many ways, we are the envy of all services because we start by setting the right standards.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Michael Ryan, recently said he'd rather "go short than go dumb," responding to questions about lowering Air Force entrance qualifications to achieve 2000's recruiting goals. I applaud this!

Our commitment to high standards is no different for the facilities where we work, live and play. At Luke we've been very good stewards of the facilities we've been entrusted. This stewardship doesn't come easy—it requires planning.

If you've been here at Luke since the mid 1990s, you've seen construction and renovations resulting in some very high quality facilities like our new dormitories. Many of these projects are a direct result of the Luke General Plan published in 1996. The \$1 million in utility upgrades currently underway in family housing are part of the original general plan. While the 1996 plan has been a great success, we've exhausted the projects outlined in it, so it is time for serious revision.

The revised plan is the roadmap to the future for Luke, Gila Bend Air Force Auxiliary Field, and the Barry M. Goldwater Range. It will integrate mission needs, infrastructure projects and future requirements.

Updating our plan involves every aspect of the wing. We will use a contractor, AETC Tiger Teams and planning assistance teams to focus on flightline development and architectural compatibility. We plan to make the community support area on the east side

of our hospital a more user-friendly area. Extensive traffic and functional relationship studies will help better organize our family-related activities.

We need inputs from groups and squadrons as well as family members to make this plan the best. In addition, we will call upon the environmental program committee, explosive safety board, threat working group, ground safety board, traffic safety board, quarters improvement council and others to ensure we factor in their valuable inputs into the plan.

Once complete, we'll review the plan annually to ensure infrastructure keeps pace with mission needs. Here's why: Mission enhancements the 56th Operations Group has implemented in the interactive briefing rooms are a revolution in technology. Unfortunately the buildings' electrical and air conditioning infrastructures did not keep pace with these upgrades. Why? These innovations were conceived since our plan was published.

Additionally, it helps us decide infrastructure needs for today's and future technology and extends the life of our utilities, roofs, roads, parking lots and buildings. No one imagined 20 years ago a computer on every desk, e-mail, the Internet and other challenges. We must review the plan, base it on mission needs and keep it relevant.

Our vision is to make the plan web- and geo-based so users can easily access it. By linking several databases to a point on a map, users can access information about work orders, project status, floor plans and building manager information.

Finally, the plan allows us to speak with one voice. This is essential during these extremely austere funding times. We're in the third consecutive year of essentially zero funding for renovation projects. An updated plan puts us in position to show AETC and Air Force senior leaders we know where we're heading—helping us leverage precious funds to make critical mission enhancements. Doing so, we are doing our part to keep us the most powerful and respected Air Force in the world!

Core values: Lead by example

By Lt. Col. Wade Johnson
56th Operations Support Squadron

Integrity first . . . Service before self . . . Excellence in all we do. We've all heard these phrases and seen them on base doorways and hallways, but we need to examine them every once in a while.

These are the core values of the U.S. Air Force. More importantly, the core values of those who have answered the call to serve. These values are the foundation upon which we build both professionally and personally. Here's my interpretation of what they mean.

Integrity

Integrity is more than being truthful at all times. It is a lifestyle that represents trustworthiness to everyone who sees you.

It can't be a once in a while endeavor we apply when it's the easy thing to do. It has to apply at the most inopportune times or even when no one is watching—the last swing shift inspection, the supervisor of flying closing checklist or anything else we do. People's lives depend on it. It may take a few minutes longer, but in the end it makes us stronger.

If everyone sees you practice integrity, they will do the same. Integrity is not always the popular decision. It is nice for a person to be liked, but much more vital that a

person is respected. A reputation for honesty and trustworthiness quickly earns respect. I'd much rather make an honest mistake and own up to it than have my boss, peers or subordinates wonder if they can trust me.

Service before self

Service before self implies personal sacrifice and unconditional dedication to our profession of arms. It also means we have a willingness to put the needs of our service before our personal desires. This doesn't mean we sacrifice families, health or spiritual well-being for workaholic habits. I've seen families fall apart because the service member didn't give proper attention at home.

Service before self means coming to work prepared to put the service ahead of personal needs. The time will come when we have to put service above everything else. Operational readiness inspections, desert rotations and remotes come to mind. If we keep personal lives healthy, we'll be better able to place service before self.

Service above self doesn't mean squashing our egos. Egos make us competitive and make us want to do the job better next time. Egos make us want to win the fight.

Problems arise when our egos become more important than service to the nation. Don't let the "what's in it for me" approach destroy the very fiber of our Air Force.

A final note to supervisors: Your folks will most likely do anything you ask to get the mission done. Their dedication is highly dependent on respecting their sacrifices and not taking advantage of their willingness to do whatever it takes. Don't grind them into the ground needlessly. There are plenty of times when you will have to ask them to work harder or longer. Save it for the times that matter.

Excellence in all we do

Excellence in all we do simply means doing the best with the resources given. Most of us do that pretty well. Sometimes though, we get comfortable with the status quo. The trick is to constantly watch for ways to improve our product.

Suggestions come from all corners. We're most likely to listen to our supervisors, but we may miss other opportunities. A one-stripe airman may have the best idea since Henry Ford's assembly line, but if you're not listening, it won't happen.

I highly encourage work centers to periodically think through the processes they control and how they can be improved. Also, think through what processes you don't control and see what your boss can do to help.

These values aren't some pie-in-the-sky rhetoric that can't be reached. They do, however, require daily attention. I wouldn't want to be in an organization that didn't value integrity, service before self and excellence.

Editorial information

The 56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office prepares all editorial content for the "Tallyho." The editor will edit or re-write material for clarity, brevity or to conform with Air Force style as required by Air Force Instruction 35-1.

Contributors, please deliver articles typed, double-spaced and on an IBM-compatible floppy disk to the public affairs office or send through distribution to 56 FW/PA, Attn: Editor or send them via e-mail to Tallyho@luke.af.mil. The phone number to the editorial office is 856-6055.

Unless otherwise noted, all photographs are U.S. Air Force photos. The "Tallyho" uses material from the Armed Forces Information Service, Air Force News Service, Air Education and Training Command News Service and other sources. All advertising is handled by Pueblo Publishers, Inc. 7122 N. 59th Ave., Glendale, Ariz., 85301, phone (623) 842-6000.

Deadline for "Tallyho" submissions is Friday at noon.

Commander

Brig. Gen. (select) Steve Sargeant

Public Affairs Officer

Maj. Derek Kaufman

Chief, News Division

Mary Jo May

NCO in charge

Tech. Sgt. George F. Jozens



Editor Tech. Sgt. Julie Briggs
Staff writer Senior Airman J. Propst
Production assistant Kristen M. Butler

The "Tallyho" is published by Pueblo Publishers, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 56th Support Group, Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the "Tallyho" are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the DOD, the Department of the Air Force or Pueblo Publishers of the product or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

50,000th fighter pilot graduates from Luke

By Tech. Sgt. Julie Briggs
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Luke recently graduated its 50,000th fighter pilot since the Army-Air Corps began training here in July 1941, five months before the United States entered World War II.

1st Lt. Joshua Padgett graduated March 8 from the F-16 basic course where he trained with the 62nd Fighter Squadron. He is now assigned to the 524th Fighter Squadron, Cannon Air Force Base, N.M.

"I had no idea anyone was counting, but I'm proud to be numbered among all the outstanding flyers who have graduated from Luke's programs throughout the years," Padgett said about being the 50,000th graduate.

Padgett, a native of Hartford, Ark., wanted to be a fighter pilot since high school. He graduated from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark., and attended undergraduate pilot training at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.

The 50,000th graduate was one of the top three student pilots in his class, achieving an overall academic average of 98.76 percent. He also won both the air-to-air and air-to-ground Top Gun awards. In individual weapons events while at Luke, Padgett took first place in the low-angle high-drag and second in the systems delivery competitions.

"Being a fighter pilot is more than just flying," Padgett said. "It is an attitude and a desire to be the best. I have yet to meet a fighter pilot who was happy to be just average."

That sentiment was echoed by one of Padgett's instructors, who added Padgett stood out among his peers.

"Lieutenant Padgett was one of the best in his class," said Capt. Randy Redell, 62nd FS instructor pilot. "His performance was enhanced by his extremely positive attitude and motivation to learn. He is the type of 'Lieutenant Fighter Pilot' we would all love to have in our squadrons."

Outstanding flying weather and access to the 2.7 million acre Barry M. Goldwater Range complex sets Luke apart as the premier fighter base, said Col. Steve Sargeant, 56th Fighter Wing commander. "But the real value of Luke is the 'fighter country' attitude that our instructors instill in our upgrading F-16 pilots."

"The legacy of excellence of both Luke Air Force Base and the 56th Fighter Wing lives on in our graduates like Lieutenant Joshua Padgett," Sargeant added.

Luke's construction began in March 1941 and was then called Litchfield Park Air Base. Designated as an advanced single-engine flying training base, fighter pilots began training the summer of 1941 with the AT-6 Texan. The first class, 41-F, began training at Sky Harbor in Phoenix and moved to the Litchfield base in July 1941. Forty-three students graduated from Luke's first class Aug. 15, 1941.



Capt. Chris Hemrick
1st Lt. Joshua Padgett, an F-16 pilot at Cannon Air Force Base, N.M., was the 50,000th fighter pilot to graduate from Luke's training program.

Since then, Luke has trained pilots in a variety of airframes, including the P-40 Warhawk, P-38 Lightning, P-51 and later the F-51 Mustang, F-80 Shooting Star, F-84 Thunderjet, T-33 Thunderbird, F-100 Super Sabre, F-86 Sabre, F-104 Starfighter, F-5A Freedom Fighter, F-5E Tiger II, A-7D Corsair, F-4 Phantom II, F-15A Eagle, F-15E Strike Eagle and, finally, the F-16 Fighting Falcon.

Nearly 5,000 of the 50,000 pilots trained at Luke were international officers. Pilots from 41 nations have converged in the Valley of the Sun over the years for training, Sargeant said. Currently F-16 pilots from Belgium, Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, Singapore, Taiwan, Turkey and the United Kingdom are assigned to Luke.

According to historical records, Luke produced 17,231 graduates from advanced single-engine and fighter-training programs during World War II. Today the base is home to the 56th Fighter Wing, the only active-duty U.S. Air Force F-16 training unit, and the 944th Fighter Wing, an Air Force Reserve F-16 unit. The base's more than 200 F-16s account for more U.S. fighters than are assigned in all of Europe.

Lecture offers job-search tips

By Kristen M. Butler
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The Retired Officers Association offers a professional lecture June 19 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. in the Bldg. 1150 public affairs auditorium to help military members find jobs after they separate.

Retired U.S. Army Col. Dick Crampton is the invited guest speaker. He provides essential information for a successful job search. He has done extensive research, writing and lecturing on military people transitioning into the civilian workforce, said James Knuckles, family support center transition manager.

"This seminar is geared toward military people with 16 to 17 years service who want to get a head start on their careers after the military," Knuckles said. "You

can't wait until you're six months from separation to look for a job — two to three years out is ideal."

Knuckles, also an Air Force retiree, said when he retired in 1987 there were no transition assistance programs.

"Seminars like these make people aware of what they need to do to find the jobs they desire," Knuckles said. "I had to learn things the hard way. I went through six or seven jobs before I found the right one."

To find the right job, Knuckles said preparation is key. The lecture is designed for active-duty members who plan to leave the military in the next one to five years.

Crampton provides information on everything from resumes and interviews to designing a job search plan. He also informs par-

ticipants on how to penetrate the hidden job market and how to deal with competition.

In addition, if a person receives a job offer, Crampton offers advice on how to negotiate a salary and benefits package. He also discusses how to handle rejection.

"I recommend this lecture to anyone planning to separate in the next couple years," Knuckles said. "When you've been in the military for a while, you forget what it's like to be in the job market and what that search will require. Any measures taken to prepare yourself for that transition is a step in the right direction."

Although the lecture is geared toward senior NCOs and officers, it is open to the base. Spouses are also encouraged to attend. If planning to attend, make reservations by calling 856-6839 or 856-6781.

News Briefs

EEO office closure

The equal employment opportunity office closes Thursday and June 16 for training. Anyone needing assistance during this time may call 856-7113.

310th change of command

Lt. Col. Paul Smith takes command of the 310th Fighter Squadron from Lt. Col. Mark Tapper at a ceremony June 16 at 9 a.m. in Hangar 913. A reception follows.

Enlisted essay contest

The U.S. Naval Institute conducts an enlisted contest for active-duty, reserve and retired personnel of any service or country. The annual competition awards \$1,000, \$750 and \$500 for the top three essays. Entries may address any subject related to military service and should be postmarked by Sept. 1. For more information or a complete list of all Naval Institute-sponsored essay and photo contests, visit www.usni.org/ or call (410)295-1058.

Expired ID cards

As a reminder, most military identification cards expire every four years. Children age 10 and older are required to have their own ID cards. Active-duty ID cards expire when enlistments do. Cards can be renewed up to 20 days before the expiration date. For more information, call 856-7875 or visit the customer service section of the military personnel flight.

Outdoor recreation rental change

Squadrons must pay a rental fee of 50 cents for folding chairs and \$1 for tables. The items can be reserved by calling outdoor recreation at 856-6267.

TDY per diem rules

When military travelers are on temporary duty to military installations, their per diem is based on government quarters and mess availability. The person generating the orders should check with the TDY base's billeting office for mess availability. This specification sets the amount authorized. Military staying off base continue to receive the full locality rate. Civilians are entitled the full rate regardless of where they stay. For more information, visit the 56th Comptroller Web page at www.luke.af.mil/56cpts.

Medical records change

Beginning June 15, primary care patients with same-day appointments will no longer have to pick up and hand carry their medical records; patients can go directly to their appointment. This change is designed to improve customer service, ensure confidentiality and provide better continuity of care. For more information, call Curt Hudson at 856-2447 or Tech. Sgt. Mel Finley at 856-7513.

ACSC recruiting

The education office seeks active-duty, Reserve and National Guard major selectees and GS-11s and above for Air Command and Staff College who have not yet completed their professional military education requirements. For more information or to register, call Cathy Brogan at 856-7722.

Aerospace integration report

The Air Force recently released a report on aerospace integration. The plan involves combining air and space capabilities and personnel to attain better results than could be achieved with air and space elements operating independently. "The Aerospace Force: Defending America in the 21st Century" is available on Air Force Link at www.af.mil/lib/taf.pdf.

Justice Report

The following action occurred between May 30 and June 2 at Luke:

♦An airman received an Article 15 for contributing to the delinquency of a minor and failing to obey Luke Instruction 32-6002. He received a suspended reduction to airman basic and 30 days restriction to Luke.

West Valley leaders tour Luke, discuss issues

By 2nd Lt.
Miki Kristina Krejcarek
56th Fighter Wing, Public Affairs

West Valley mayors, councilmembers and city planning staffs participated in "Meet the Mayors" tour recently, which included briefings on Luke's mission, table-top discussions, and fighter squadron and engine shop visits.

More than 40 people from 11 cities took part in two separate visits May 25 and June 1. Community leaders and Luke senior leadership discussed topics such as the Barry M. Goldwater Range, urban encroachment, fighter modernization, recruiting and retention.

"Luke is making every effort to keep the lines of communication open with the surrounding communities," said Col. Ed Kasl, 56th Fighter Wing vice commander. "As a wing, we all need to focus on community relations and talk to our neighbors at every possible opportunity."

Because encroachment is a priority, the visits enabled Col. Steve Sargeant, 56th FW commander, as well as Kasl and group commanders to discuss this



Capt. Stephen Granger, 61st Fighter Squadron instructor pilot, shows an F-16 to Elmer Miller of Youngtown during the recent "Meet the Mayors" visit. The tours are designed to encourage closer cooperation between Luke and West Valley leaders on issues of mutual concern such as urban growth and encroachment.

Staff Sgt. Christopher Matthews

important issue with West Valley leaders.

"By explaining to them first-hand who we are, what we do and why we do it, community leaders will be better equipped to support mission readiness and spread our message of Luke's importance to their constituents," Kasl said.

The groups toured the 61st and 308th Fighter Squad-

rons on separate days,

learning about F-16 operations and maintenance. Litchfield Park Mayor (elect) Woody Thomas said touring the 308th FS with its interactive classrooms and looking into the F-16 cockpit were impressive. "Most of the mayors I know are in favor of maintaining Luke's integrity. I realized through this tour the value of Luke to the community," Thomas said. Another highlight was a tour of the 56th Component Repair Squadron's propulsion flight. Visitors asked questions on basic engine operating characteristics and maintenance of the Pratt & Whitney motor. "The groups seemed very interested and receptive," said 2nd Lt. Jay Hennette, 56th EMS propulsion flight commander. "I think they grew a respect for the magnitude of our operations. With that respect, it will be easier to communicate our needs and help them understand why it's so important

we do what we do."

Encouraging open communication is key, Kasl said.

"It's vital that we keep an eye on how the West Valley is developing around Luke and educate community leaders, planners and the public so they can make informed decisions," Kasl said.

Top Dollar

Luke team competes

By Tech. Sgt. Julie Briggs
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Luke's seven-member team was recently selected to be one five teams to compete for the 2000 AETC Top Dollar championship.

Luke's team, composed of five finance and two contracting people, competes for the championship at Little Rock Air Force, Ark., Aug. 11 through 18.

"We're excited to participate in the Top Dollar finals," said team chief 1st Lt. James Kenisky, 56th Comptrollers Squadron deputy financial services officer. "Through hard work and dedication we know we'll win."

A four-member evaluation team from the command picked the winners after carefully rating each base's team. Exercises validated base-level finance and contracting training and tested the teams' abilities to adapt their training in a deployed environment.

In addition, the evaluation team rated proficiency at shooting weapons, chemi-

cal warfare defense techniques, self-aid and buddy care, physical fitness and the use of information security.

Rules state 1999 Top Dollar competitors may not compete in the 2000 competition.

"The intent of the competition is to train our airmen to perform various finance and contracting functions in a contingency operation," Kenisky explained. This is especially relevant with the new AEFs (aerospace expeditionary force)."

People don't often think of finance or contracting when they go on a contingency.

"But without contracting and finance, the contingency couldn't function," added team member Senior Airman Richard Tate, 56th CPTS. "You have to have goods and services to operate and you have to have a way to pay for them."

Another vital role is morale, especially when it comes to pay issues for not only the people deployed, but also for their family members, Kinesky said.

The AETC Top Dollar winner represents the command at the Air Force competition hosted by Air Force Space Command.

Ecstasy use yields jail time

By 2nd Lt. Jeffrey Carney
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

A Luke airman basic was recently convicted for using the drug Ecstasy, making a false official statement and being absent without authority.

A panel of Luke officers sentenced Airman Basic Gary Waugh, 56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, to three months confinement and three months forfeiture of \$670 pay. Rank reduction was not available as a punishment because he had already lost two stripes due to prior misconduct.

Waugh pleaded guilty to all offenses at a special court-martial May 17 and 18. He said he bought the drug at a Scottsdale nightclub. After arriving late to work the Monday after taking the drug, he submitted a urine sample. His sample tested positive for the principal chemical used to make Ecstasy. The test also showed a concentration exceeding 17 times the Defense Department limit of 500 nanograms per milliliter.

While awaiting trial, Waugh skipped a day of duty. April 13, Waugh called his supervisors and said he had been placed on quarters after a sick call appointment. However, Waugh was never placed on quarters.

That same morning, 56th EMS people discovered Waugh's lie and went to his dorm

room to have him report for duty. Waugh was not in his room and remained absent until 7 a.m. the following morning.

Capt. Kirk Stocker, 56th Medical Support Squadron pharmacist, testified for the government as an expert. He said Ecstasy is highly addictive and usually ingested in a pill or capsule. Ecstasy is a stimulant that speeds breathing and heart rate.

"The most popular place that people use ecstasy is at nightclubs," Stocker said.

It's called the "hug or love drug" because it invokes feelings of peacefulness and empathy. It is also claimed to suppress the need to eat, drink or sleep. Among its many dangers "when people take it, they tend to not realize they're overheating," Stocker said.

Ecstasy users face risks similar to amphetamines and cocaine use. Short-term effects are involuntary jaw clenching, sweating, tremors and sleep problems, while long-term effects are memory loss, decreased alertness, anxiety and paranoia.

"Hopefully, this sentence will send a message to this airman and deter other airmen from using illegal drugs," said Capt. Kelli Donley, 56th Fighter Wing staff judge advocate's office attorney and trial counsel. "Drug use is incompatible with military service and choosing to use drugs is a serious risk to any airman's career."

This column recognizes Team Luke members' contributions to wartime readiness in the tradition of 2nd Lt. Frank Luke.

Name: Maj. Daniel Garcia, 56th Range Management Office environmental science chief
Hometown: Washington, D.C.
Years service: 12 active duty; six in the Reserves
Inspirations: Doing a job that makes a meaningful difference instead of just churning paperwork.
Off duty: Home repair, carpentry and chauffeuring our daughter

Commander's comments: "I can't think of a more deserving individual," said Col. Jim Uken, RMO director. "Dan embodies all the traits a 56th Fighter Wing warrior is supposed to have — professional, talented, hard-working and a real commitment to his unit and wing missions. In particular, his work with cultural and natural stewardship at the Goldwater Range has been exemplary and will pay significant dividends to not only Luke, but also the Defense Department and public interests as a whole."



Garcia

Luke's Spirit

Col. Steve Sargeant, 56th Fighter Wing commander, uses this column to recognize Team Luke members' outstanding customer service.

Name: Terry Hansen, 56th Range Management Office assistant airspace manager
Hometown: Phoenix
Years service: 36
Inspirations: Bill Stevens, Maryvale High School dean of boys, for pointing me in the right direction during a time I was going in the wrong direction. Also, Gary Blake for his dedication to the Air Force and mission for the past 10 years I've worked for him.
Goals: To ensure the 56th Fighter Wing keeps the airspace it has today.

Off duty: Skiing, golfing and horse racing
Commander's comments: "Terry is not only our airspace expert, but our liaison with neighboring American Indian nations as well," Sargeant said. "In these two critical roles, he is essential to the 56th Fighter Wing and its mission. He's flat out doing a great job."



Hansen



Promotion list

Master sergeant

56th Fighter Wing
Ayn Locklear, James Sanders and Charles Smith
56th Operations Group
Paul Cupach, Michael Gingery, Michael Goodman, Gregory Holt, Ronald Miles, Joseph Murphy, Anna Reynolds and Travis Walker
56th Operations Support Squadron
Pinkey Barbee, Lamar Chandel, Anthony Cleveland, Cecilia Harlfinger, Gregg Mowrer, James Nelson, Lee Roundtree and Gary Wilde
21st Fighter Squadron
Robert Boneck, Anthony Dixon, Kenneth Gamel, Edward Hale, Charvis Labadie, Brenda Roebuck and Blaine Strand
61st Fighter Squadron
Keith McKenzie and Dyrell Parker
62nd Fighter Squadron
Brian Kidd and Sherman Miller
63rd Fighter Squadron
James Gentry, Sandy Mooney, Thomas Smith, Mark Trufant, John Villines, Barry Webb and Nathaniel Williams
308th Fighter Squadron
Vincent Castillo, Mark Halvorsen, Gisele Mullen and Daniel Piper
309th Fighter Squadron
Bruce Chahanovich, Paul Johnston, Daniel Sherrard and Jeffrey Vedders
310th Fighter Squadron
Solomon Bayoneta and Montana Laramie
425th Fighter Squadron
Richard Williams
56th Logistics Group
Paul Matson, Ivan Rivera and James Strenn
56th Component Repair Squadron
Richard Arbogast, Charles Coleman, Anthony Grizzard, Mitchell Jeffcoat, Kenneth Klippenstein, Rolland Mills, David Parker, David Phelps, Patrick Saffo, Patrick Snively and Daniel Yeck
56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron
Robert Cook, Lawrence Dunlap, Kenneth Ferguson, Gary Feters, Douglas Hales, Susan Howser, Anthony Lakin, Brenda Napier, Howard Reeser and Kenneth Sinclair
56th Logistics Support Squadron
Kevin Barker and Eliot Wakefield
56th Supply Squadron

Richard Darling, Patricia Jimerson, David Keck and Hi Zunzuneguinarro
56th Transportation Squadron
Mark Cooke and Corey Newton
56th Aerospace Medicine Squadron
Christopher Glasheen and Keith White
56th Dental Squadron
James Sammons and Lavonne Thomas
56th Medical Operations Squadron
Regina Alfonso, Melvin Finley, Wayne Greenwood and Edward Holland
56th Medical Support Squadron
William Heater and Bart Scherack
56th Support Group
Ruben Gonzalez
56th Communications Squadron
Joey Askew, Jeffrey Roberson and Alan Sady
56th Civil Engineer Squadron
Frank Diaz, Kenny Wessels and William White
56th Mission Support Squadron
Cory Carmichael, Donald Crowe and Leslie Jeanette
56th Services Squadron
Hector Eide and Michael Solomon
342nd Training Squadron
Christopher Sheaffer and Lawrence Stuhr
607th Air Control Squadron
Robert Fore and Eugene Ringuette
Det. 12, 372nd Training Squadron
Samuel Evans, Douglas Sargent and Elliott Williams

Technical sergeant

56th Fighter Wing
Andre America, Sharon Bergeron, Kirkland Brown, Brian Davidson, Nancy Fleo, Thomas Gonzales and Kirt Mowrer
56th Comptroller Squadron
Thomas Brown and Jeffrey Purks
56th Operations Group
James Dasse, Paul Jackson, Michael MacNary, Travis Purdy, Randall Scott, Brian Smith, Paul Tamulones and Jonathan Veal
56th Operations Support Squadron
William Barnett, David Boucher, Shearl Brinson, Richard Carden, Gregory Davis, Todd Johnson, Wayne Ledford, Anthony Piccoli, Rodney Roan, Terrance Tolder and David Wynia
56th Training Squadron
Patricia Gilbert and Crystal Stoudemire
21st Fighter Squadron
Gary Biesenthal, Kelly Braby, Richard Bussell, Alan

Flynn, Richard Fountain, Charles Graves, Alan Inglett, Barry Leverette, Alana Maurial-Tamulones, Jimmy Peralta and Robert Richardson
61st Fighter Squadron
James Goldsby, Frank Hall, Edward Hardy and Norman Shields
62nd Fighter Squadron
Gerald Armstrong, Edister Brogdon, Steven Gaylor and Valentine Vascik
63rd Fighter Squadron
Lawrence Adkins, Paul Delano, Thomas Dubishar, Derek Dwyer, Gregory Fenger, Steven Glover, James Sunderland and James Tunstell
308th Fighter Squadron
Michelle Bell, Michael Hohman, Ronald Leeman, Romulo Martinez, Martin Petersen, John Price, Michael Roberson, Walter Scott, Jerry Shank, Laurie Tully, Richard White, John Wojcik and Mark Yates
309th Fighter Squadron
Robert Blount, Sheron Carr, Ryan Carter, Michael Ervin, Michael Hill, Michael House, Timothy Kellner, Arlene Lynton, Bernard Richardson, Timothy Roberts, Steven Sharp, Donald Thielen and David Williams
310th Fighter Squadron
Gerard Cameron, John Day, Randall Dudney, Eugene Hinton, Gene Parrill, Bobby Sasser, Donald Simmons and Barry Stockdale
425th Fighter Squadron
Barbara Booker
56th Logistics Group
Todd Elias, Rory Hudson, Richard Lipphardt, Kenneth Shaffer and William Wallace
56th Component Repair Squadron
Gregory Bloss, Alexander Bolar, Bradley Brink, Michael Brockman, Michael Brooksher, Heyward Carpenter, Carl Close, Robert Dominy, Louis Ellcessor, William Fallon, Vincent Goins, Jeffrey Hemly, Dale Horwedel, Christopher Korn, Russ Ludwig, James Martin, Scott Menges, Robert Pearson, Orlando Riley, Bradley Stopa and Robert Strief
56th Contracting Squadron
Madeline Cabanas, Tina Crosby, Steven Munnell, Ronald Riley and Todd Tetrault
56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron
Marc Anderson, Mark Barber, Doneya Briley, James Burgess, Richard Carroll, Raymond Edmonds, Richard Heininger, Michael Hull, Mark Jackson, Daniel Kaylor, Petra McCarthy, Patrick McQuay, Theresa Munoz, Karlton Nicholson, Michael Oppelt, Alexander Pina, Thomas Ridge, Gregory Savage, Andrew Scott,

Russell Talavera, Franklyn Tincher and Keith Wolfe
56th Logistics Support Squadron
Dawson Baker, Nickey Crider and Donald Madson
56th Supply Squadron
Daniel Harrington, Kenneth Herring, Genise Hunter, Rodney Lyons, Brett Mattheis, Corey Reichert, Donald White, Stephen Yoder and Kevin Youngkin
56th Transportation Squadron
Clifton Benton and Yvonne Leal
56th Civil Engineer Squadron
Rafael Cancino, John Kariefenton, Ricky King, Paul Klinger, Kevin Kobel, Bryan Lucas, John Smejkal, Caroline Stahl and Daryl Steck
56th Communications Squadron
Susan Andrews, David Bialy, Gregory Gouveia, Mark Killinger and Daniel Whitcomb
56th Mission Support Squadron
Gerald Bolin, Richard Klupper and Kathy Ware
56th Services Squadron
Vincent Oliver
56th Security Forces Squadron
Kenneth Brambley, John Fox, Richard Harris, Jeffrey Ludwikoski, Brian Martin and Brian McManus
56th Aerospace Medicine Squadron
Cecedrick Scott and Raymond Villa
56th Medical Operations Squadron
Eddie Smith
56th Medical Support Squadron
Trina Berry, David Caudill, Donald Edge, Reginald Gesmundo, John Grier, Lisa Johnson, Richard Miller, Susan Shipley, Jamie Waaler and Carl Williams
362nd Training Squadron
Jonathan Ablang, Jamie Cabral, Manuel Gonzalez, Eugene Korleski, Albert Moone, Lester Sanders, Eric Waaler and Eric Whittington
607th Air Control Squadron
Michael Briggs, Truth Clark, William Jones, Gordon Kenyon, James Nonog, William Schubert and Stephen Zoellner
Det. 1, ACC Training Support Squadron
Steven Jostes and Ramona Rosen
Det. 12, 372nd Training Squadron
Joseph Carrion, Michael Jancarole, Thomas McCarthy, Jimmie Scott, Kevin Shaffer and Joyce Wynn
AFROTC Det. 25
Ronald Pompa
AFROTC Det. 27
Alan Gerner



Healthcare

Officials make AF people aware of patient advocacy resources

By Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — To better address concerns and questions about healthcare, military health officials are working to make Air Force people more aware of patient advocacy resources.

“For decades, we have had health benefits advisors whose job it is to help patients,” said Lt. Col. Ed LeBlanc, Air Force Surgeon General health benefits and policy deputy chief. “They may be called by different names at different facilities, but their function is basically the same — help patients resolve their problems or concerns.”

“We discovered the problem is people are not aware of who they (health benefits advisors) are or how to contact them. We need to get the word out and make sure people know there is a system to help them and how to access it,” said Maj. Jon Rychalski, Air Force Surgeon General’s medical programs and resources directorate operations officer.

Formalizing customer service programs into a single patient advocacy program, the military health system established a single position at all TRICARE lead agents and military treatment facilities.

“Although there is now one person designated at each MTF whose primary job it is to work patient issues and over-

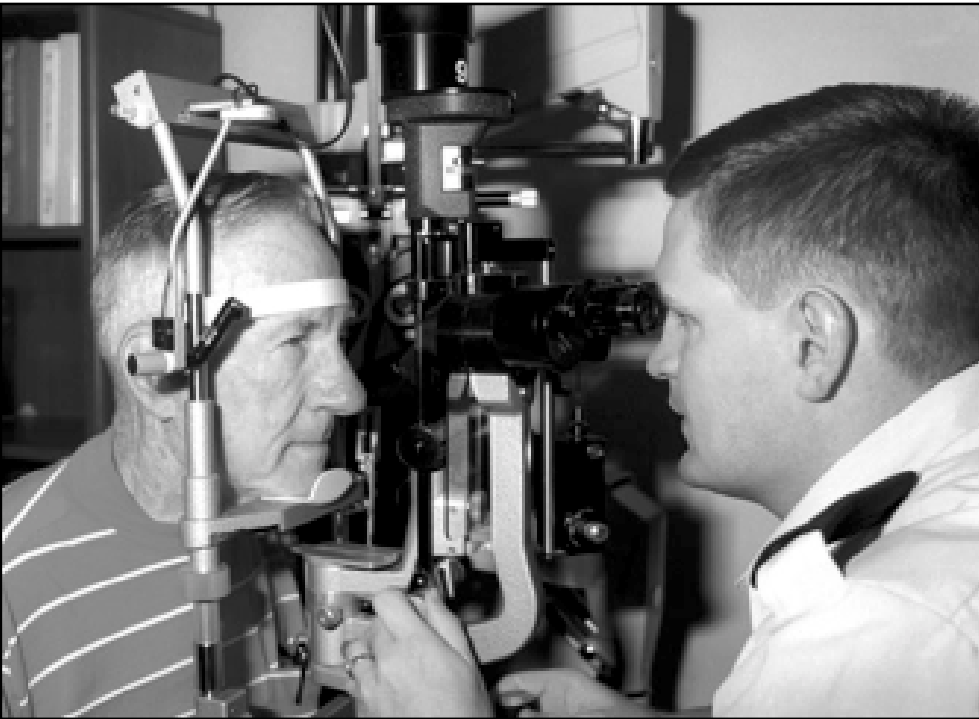
see the MTF’s patient relations program, there are many people who are trained to assist patients with issues or questions,” Rychalski said.

In addition to the beneficiary counseling and assistance coordinator, the Air Force Surgeon General’s office surveyed Air Force MTFs to see what other initiatives were being implemented,” Rychalski said.

“Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., established a customer service center and staffed it with four full-time people trained to handle patient inquiries,” he said. “At Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., everyone is taught to be ambassadors. These ambassadors are given time to contact patients to find out what they thought about the service they received rather than wait for a patient to call the MTF about a problem they encountered.”

These two examples showcase the overall patient advocacy program goal — getting all medical personnel to focus on customer service and satisfaction. “Everyone in the MTF should be a customer service representative and assist or refer you to someone for guidance,” he said. “The best thing for a patient to do if they have a problem is to try and solve it at the lowest level — ask someone at that particular clinic. They may be able to help the patient immediately.”

The objective of these initiatives is not only to address individual patient con-



Courtesy photo
To assist patients with questions or concerns, the Air Force Surgeon General established beneficiary counseling and assistance coordinators at all TRICARE lead agents and Air Force military treatment facilities, including Luke.

cerns and problems, but also to use that information to solve system-wide problems as well, LeBlanc said.

“We are taking the (most common concerns) among patients — issues with claims processing, appointment and accessibility problems — and working to improve the overall system.”

“We want people to know what resources are available and to use them,” said Col. Allen Middleton, Air Force Surgeon General medical programs and resources director. “The system is there to help our patients.”

Congress proposes GI Bill benefits expansion

By Staff Sgt. A. J. Bosker
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — A current congressional proposal would expand the total Montgomery GI Bill benefits for service members from the current 36 month total of \$19,296 to \$25,920, according to Jim Sweizer, chief of the Voluntary Education Branch, Directorate of Personnel Force Development, Headquarters Air Force.

The proposal, if voted into law, would increase the basic benefit for full-time students from \$536 per month to \$600 per month beginning Oct. 1, Sweizer said. The benefit would increase to \$720 per month. Addition-

ally, part-time students would also see a proportional increase.

The intent of the Montgomery GI Bill is to help veterans continue their education, according to Sweizer, said.

To achieve this, the proposal would also provide service members who are still enrolled in the Veterans Educational Assistance Program another opportunity to convert to the Montgomery GI Bill, he said.

“Almost 19,000 Air Force members were denied conversion to the GI Bill in 1996 when they were first offered the option to convert,” he said.

“Most were denied because they had no money in their VEAP account. Under VEAP, once you made a

\$25 contribution, you could withdraw your investment and pay into the account at a later date. The government would then double any money, up to \$2,700, paid into the account. The way the law was written in 1996, those who had withdrawn their money were not permitted to convert to the Montgomery GI Bill.”

Service members who choose to convert from VEAP to the Montgomery GI Bill will need to pay \$2,700, Sweizer said.

In addition to continuing education, the new proposal would permit the Montgomery GI Bill benefits to pay fees for civilian occupational licensing or certification tests, he said.

Expeditionary Aerospace Force

Web site prepares airman for deployment

By Capt. Wilson Camelo

Air Combat Command Public Affairs

To help ensure people deploying as part of the Expeditionary Aerospace Force concept are fully prepared for their arrival in theater, the Aerospace Expeditionary Force Center at Langley Air Force Base, Va., unveiled the first version of an electronic one-stop shop for AEF deployments in April.

Called EAF Online, the Web site features training templates airmen can access to obtain information on actions they need to complete — specific to their Air Force specialty code — before deploying, said Lt. Col. Gordon Bennett, Web site project officer.

The restricted site will only be available via military computers at <http://aefcenter.acc.af.mil/eafonline>.

The April version featured training templates for communications, legal and maintenance AFSCs deploying for Operation Southern Watch. The completed version with training templates for all AFSCs deploying to support any steady state deployment will be available by October, Bennett said.

“The goal is to have EAF Online serve as the backbone for all AEF actions for people deploying to support Air Force worldwide operations,” he said. “We want everyone identified for an AEF deployment to go to this site first to obtain the information on actions they need to com-

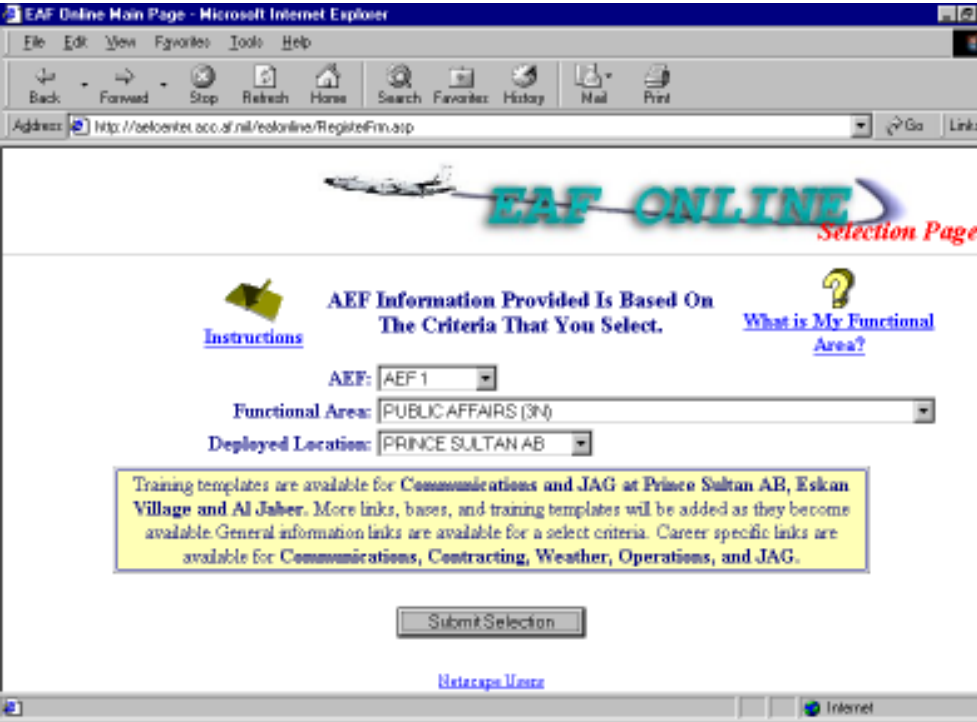
plete, so they are ready to hit the ground running when they arrive at their deployed locations.”

Those actions include required training, shot and qualifications for each AFSC and location. Once logged onto EAF Online — accomplished by entering a career field, AEF number, deployment location and home base in specific fields — people can access the requirements and training needed for the deployment, such as weapons, chemical warfare and air base ground defense. The site will also feature force protection and geopolitical issues, lessons learned from previous rotations and links to related news articles.

“We want to make people smart and do as much training as we can on this side of the ocean,” Bennett said. “This will benefit the people on the other side of the ocean when they receive a fully trained, fully briefed airman.”

Conducting briefings and training before departures also has positive implications for the large number of reserve forces filling AEF taskings, Bennett said.

“Giving reservists the ability to obtain their training and complete their requirements at home will pay off big down the line, and make this critical portion of our Air Force even more effective in a deployed environment,” he said. Air National Guard and Reserve members are filling approximately 10 percent of the



The new Web site has information based on AEF, AFSC and the deployed location.

AEF taskings.

As the Web site is developed, other aspects such as “Right Start” briefings, travel arrangements and issues such as orders, pay and outprocessing actions will be added.

Bennett stressed that EAF Online’s success depends on feedback from the field. The Web site lets users provide feed-

back directly to the AEF Center.

“We hope people of all specialties will visit the site, and suggest ways to improve our information,” he said. “The site is for deploying troops — we are trying to present information they will need and consider valuable. Feedback is essential for our success. (Courtesy of Airman magazine)

Career advisors assist airmen

By Tech. Sgt. R.R. Getsy
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — For airmen facing uncertainty about their career options or who are undecided about whether to re-enlist, help will soon be just a phone call away.

Air Force leaders have approved an initiative recommended by a Retention Summit held in April to establish career assistance advisors at each base, according to Lt. Col. Jan Middleton, chief of retention policy and personnel.

“There are many airmen who are unaware about all the options and benefits available to them when they are faced with the decision to re-enlist, get out or transfer to the Guard or Reserve,” she said.

“For the last couple of years, there was a lot of feedback from the field to bring back the base career advisors,” she said. “That’s what we kept hearing.”

When the Air Force took away the base career advisors, the duties fell to supervisors to counsel their people and ensure they were aware of their benefits and options, Middleton said.

“That’s when things got pretty busy with the increased operations tempo and the force draw down and the supervisors often didn’t have time to fill that void,” she said.

“So, we’ve decided to bring in a similar position — not the same as the base career advisor — since the career assistance advisors will focus on more than just retention issues, per se,” Middleton said. “Their main role will be to serve as an advisor to the commanders and first line supervisors on all retention matters, but we also plan for them to have a very visible role with the troops. Speaking to airmen one-on-one and in groups about the benefits of remaining in the Air Force will be critical to keeping people informed.”

A senior NCO from any career field can fill the position with a minimum two-year commitment.

“The senior NCO will work closely with the wing

staff and command chief master sergeant and will be the point person for commanders, supervisors and first sergeants to go to on issues such as retraining, reenlistments, benefits and other career decisions.

“Our first line supervisors and commanders still have the primary responsibility to mentor and provide feedback to their troops. They (the career advisors) will also counsel airmen who are seriously considering separation about Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve opportunities,” Middleton said.

“They’re going to be out meeting with the folks. They’re going to be the ones with all the information at hand to assist people needing help or information about their careers or benefits,” she said.

The Air Force Personnel Center has established a retention operations office to be the focal point for retention issues and to work with the career assistance advisors in the field.

The retention office is establishing a retention Web page to provide one-stop shopping for retention data and other related information, according to AFPC officials.

This will include monthly statistics on retention for the advisors and commanders to use to measure their retention programs’ effectiveness. The Web page will include hot links to other sites that contain information helpful to those making career decisions or to commanders and first line supervisors during career counseling sessions.

The Web page will also contain information on topics including TRICARE, retraining, retirement benefits, pay, and family support programs, AFPC officials added. The office is also developing reference materials for the advisors and first line supervisors and a pamphlet for first-term airmen describing the benefits of remaining in the Air Force.

Middleton said there are plans to conduct a one-week course at AFPC in August for the initial group of advisors. “We hope to have the first group in place by Sept. 30,” she said.

DOD studies heart failure

By Dewey Mitchell
Wilford Hall Medical Center Public Affairs

SAN ANTONIO (AFPN) — San Antonio area veterans with congestive heart failure are the focus of a \$14 million Department of Defense study, U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla, announced recently.

The study is conducted by a team at the University of Texas Health Science Center, but they will work closely with medical staffs at Wilford Hall Medical Center, Brooke Army Medical Center and Audley Murphy Veterans Administration Hospital. About 1,500 patients will be monitored over 27 months, including some 400 active-duty and retired patients and 400 veterans of the military services.

Maj. Gen. Wynn Mabry, Wilford Hall commander, explained the significance of the study.

“This project is designed to determine the optimal care for patients suffering from congestive heart failure,” Mabry said. “In conjunction with others in the study, our patients will receive varying intensities of home health care to improve survival, reduce hospitalization and maximize their quality of life.”

Patients in the study will be monitored by nurse case managers who will watch their progress and work closely with primary care doctors. The nurses will watch for warning signs such as weight gain, increased fatigue or irregularity in taking medications.

Some of the patients in the study will also be given monitoring devices to use at home, such as a special wrist watch that provides a measurement of the patient’s activity level.

The DOD study may have a direct impact on the 4.5 million Americans who suffer from congestive heart failure because it seeks to improve management of the day-to-day variations in symptoms.

AF continues retention ‘war,’ responds to concerns

By Tech. Sgt. R.R. Getsy

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force continues its “war” on retention challenges by responding to concerns from the field on issues ranging from better communication from the top to retraining and TRICARE.

Using feedback from focus groups across the Air Force, a retention summit culled 19 initiatives from an initial pool of 89.

“The summit, which first met in January, identified 89 initiatives. We then held focus groups at 11 bases stateside and in Europe addressing these and other general issues,” said Lt. Col. Jan Middleton, chief of retention policy and personnel.

Another summit took place in April and, based on feedback from the focus groups, the top initiatives were briefed to senior Air Force leadership earlier this month.

“We are extremely pleased with the work of the two summits. They came in ready to make a positive difference for our men and women and I believe they did,” said Lt. Gen. Donald Peterson, Air Force deputy chief of staff for personnel.

“We learned people were primarily concerned about issues such as TRICARE, spouse employment, retraining and lack of communication from leadership,” Middleton said.

“The overarching theme throughout this whole process is communication,” she said. “The field needs to know what’s going on and why.

“One way we are addressing this is through doing a better job of providing commanders information that can then be relayed to the troops,” she said.

Another initiative she believes will help improve the flow of communication is the retention toolkit.

“This is a major initiative which will basically be a one-stop source for people to access the latest and greatest on retention information,” Middleton explained.

The toolkit will be an online service, maintained

“They came in ready to make a positive difference for our men and women and I believe they did.”

Lt. Gen. Donald Peterson

Air Force deputy chief of staff for personnel

by the retention operations office at the Air Force Personnel Center. “It will be a place for commanders, supervisors and career assistance advisors to get the latest retention information for their people,” she said.

The AFPC home page will provide a link to the site, which is expected to be online by the end of the fiscal year.

“People will be able to go to this site to learn the latest information on pay and benefits, reenlistments and retraining programs — anything that pertains to their career,” Middleton said. Wing commanders will also be able to access the latest metrics on retention trends at their particular bases.

Of the 19 recommended initiatives, 11 received unconditional approval. The remaining eight either were deferred awaiting more information or generated an additional tasking.

“Many of these initiatives will happen quickly and others, such as those being reviewed by the IPTs, will take time,” Middleton said.

The 11 approved initiatives are:

- ♦ Retention Toolkit: Create a resource to give commanders and supervisors ready access to pertinent information and material relative to retention.

- ♦ Career advisors: Establish full-time career assistance advisor positions at all bases. Advisors will be the focal point of contact for all matters concerning retention and benefits.

- ♦ Childcare: Allocate funds to partially subsidize childcare at on-base licensed homes. The program al-

lows for extra hours when active-duty members are required to work longer hours, on weekends and in the evening to support inspections, deployments, exercises, etc.

- ♦ Air Force history: Emphasize history and tradition and develop a campaign to publicize the program.

- ♦ BAH: There are two BAH initiatives. The first is to continue supporting the Defense Department’s proposal to provide for 100-percent basic housing allowance benefits. The second is to fully support the Defense Department’s review of housing standards.

- ♦ Education benefits: Conduct a comprehensive review of all tuition assistance and Montgomery GI Bill proposals.

- ♦ Pay and benefits: Conduct a review of the enlisted bonus program and pay structure.

- ♦ Training: Review the NCO Retraining Program.

- ♦ Communication flow to the field: Improve packaging of critical information to the commanders for use at commander’s calls and increase use of non-web-based materials.

- ♦ Tax break: Support unified legislation and budgeting initiative to give a tax break to working spouses when a military member is transferred overseas.

“We will continue to focus our efforts on retaining our people,” Peterson said. “Every single person wearing the Air Force uniform is critical to mission success and we need to ensure they are taken care of. We are very positive about the future of the Air Force and that our men and women will continue to serve in the manner that makes our Air Force the best in the world.”

Enlisted training

AF improves upgrade process, reduces time requirement

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. (AFPN) — Changes to the enlisted training process have shortened time requirements for completing 7-level upgrade training and reduced the number of people in training. The changes, which include eliminating the 12-month waiting period required before trainees could attend advanced courses and reducing overall minimum training time, are a result of Air Force leadership's decision at Corona Top '99 to re-evaluate the training process. "These changes are right on target," said Master Sgt. Keith Melton, Air Mobility Command training manager. "Our Air Force leadership recognized that the original minimum training times established under 'Year of Training' were often excessive." Since Corona Top '99, AMC initiatives have focused on management procedures. The command developed a standard metric to monitor upgrade training time, mandated use of the on-the-job training roster, and now requires unit commander evaluations of trainees to determine potential training problems. Supervisors and trainers are directed to document training milestones to improve system updates and avoid unnecessary delays in

upgrade actions. Finally, the AMC commander set a goal to eliminate no-shows at the advanced 7-level course. This has shortened upgrade training times and reduced the number of AMC people in upgrade training. Two years ago, during field visits, the 15th Air Force commander was presented with concerns that the troops were becoming frustrated with a training system that was time- rather than performance-based. At that time, a technician in 7-level upgrade training had to complete all 7-level core tasks, all duty position training, a mandatory career development course, spend 18 months in training and obtain a supervisor upgrade recommendation. Additionally, trainees had to complete a formal, Air Force specialty-specific advanced training course. The trainee had to wait a minimum of 12 months before being eligible to attend the advanced course. Many trainees felt the minimum upgrade training requirements were too restrictive and did not provide an incentive for sharp airmen to increase their knowledge and proficiency as quickly as their abilities would allow. "Finding the right balance between training time

and performance is the challenge," said Col. Richard Fitzhugh, AMC's personnel director. "Time alone may not be the best qualifier. Quality and quantity of training accompanied with individual initiative and demonstrated performance are also important." Further research found management processes within the units were also causing delays in training. Allocated training slots went unfilled as unit commanders canceled attendance citing operational necessity; some individuals failed to meet the minimum requirements for attendance at 7-level school; and still others weren't notified of their selection. "Our research indicates that in AMC alone, several thousand 5- and 7-level technicians could have been upgraded in fiscal 1999, with increased leadership attention on training management," Fitzhugh said. "We have a way to go, but are making steady progress in the right direction," Fitzhugh said. AETC is reviewing 7-level school data to determine the correct mix of class size, course scheduling, and instructor billets to reduce the amount of time trainees must wait for formal training.



Navy Airman William Bestman answers questions about the aircraft carrier USS Constellation anchored off San Diego.

Sun, fun, surf, sand

Outdoor recreation goes to San Diego, tours historic sites

Story and photos by
Senior Airman J. Propst
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Luke people who say they have nothing to do can find a refreshing escape in one of outdoor recreation's trips and activities. Memorial Day weekend they took 14 people to Coronado Island near San Diego for surf, sand, sun and fun.

Throughout the three-day trip, outdoor recreation staff planned events, ranging from tourist activities such as a dinner-dance cruise around the harbor to a trip to the beach.

The group met Friday afternoon to begin their excursion. During the roadtrip, the recreation staff pointed out interesting sights, like sand dunes that don't seem to belong in the middle of California. After getting to know each other on the ride, the tourists settled into their seaside hotel rooms at the Coronado Navy Lodge.

The participants then quickly prepared themselves for a weekend of fun.

One of the first stops was a two-hour trolley tour of San Diego. The tour not only gave participants an overview of the city, but also provided San Diego's unique history.

Tour group members were also given the opportunity to tour an active U.S. Navy aircraft carrier. When the group approached "America's Flagship" the massive USS Constellation, it was hard to believe it is one of the smallest aircraft carriers in the fleet. A seaman showed them around the virtual floating city.

He explained day-to-day operations as well as how they live when out to sea months at a time. After walking up and down 100 feet of stairs the group joked they had done their exercise for the day and commented about the sheer size of the ship.

"I was overwhelmed by the enormity of the ship and the knowledge needed to operate it," said Cecil White, trip participant. "A sailor with only one-year experience was responsible for maneuvering the entire craft."

The tourists also got to venture out in a smaller craft — a deep sea fishing boat. Everyone was betting who would catch the largest fish during the five-hour excursion. Though the bites were slow — everyone had an opportunity to view playful sea lions and seals as well as pelicans that attempted to dive down and steal the anglers' catches.

"The highlight of the tour was catching a sand bass on the deep sea fishing trip. I tried for darn near four hours to catch something with no luck," said 2nd Lt. Spencer Prou, 310th Fighter Squadron. "I finally snagged one five minutes before we headed to shore. There was no way I was going home empty handed!"

Monday was spent relaxing on Mission Beach. People browsed through shops rollerbladed, biked and hit the beach.

The trip was planned for several people who wanted to see San Diego. The cost was \$300 and included transportation, lodging and activities. Outdoor recreation offers many low-cost trips, including a trip to Hawaii. For more information on future trips, call 856-9334.



Neal Washburn, outdoor recreation coordinator, catches a whopper during the deep sea fishing portion of the San Diego trip.



Cliff Adams looks over a map while his wife, Mary, and Liz Hair take in the scenery during a trolley tour of downtown San Diego.



The ocean view from the hotel rooms at the Navy Lodge at Coronado Naval Base.

Heir Born

The following babies were born at the Luke Hospital during May:

John Hunter to Sarah and Michael Meyer

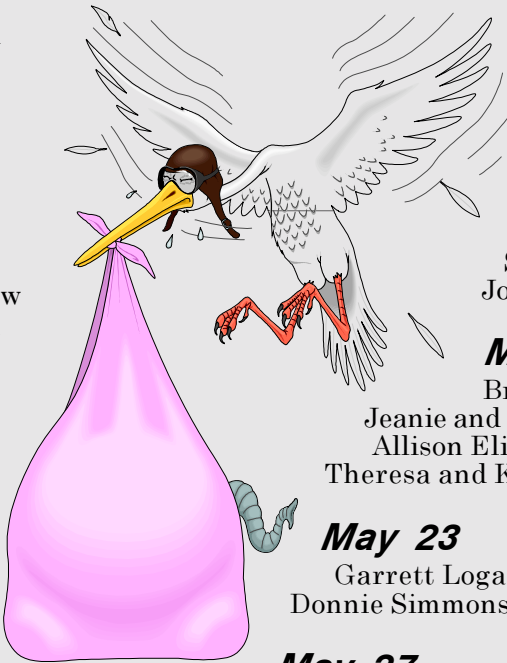
May 5
Hannah Kim Park to Jungeun Kim and Youngchoon Park

May 8
Ryan Matthew to Monique and Matthew Retzloff.

May 11
Caitlynn Elizabeth to Tina and James Beyer Candy Cheyenne to Loreen and Donald Cooper

May 14
Zoe Carlyle to Kimberly and Shawn Jeardoe

May 15
Michael Manuel to Jennifer and Manuel Moreno



May 16
Kylee Maxine to Amanda and Jeremy Coppock

May 17
Aleena Faith to Suzan and Joshua Baker

May 19
Bryce Aaron to Jeanie and Chris Barta Allison Elizabeth to Theresa and Kevin Schaller

May 23
Garrett Logan to Kelly and Donnie Simmons

May 27
Dillon Thomas to Nicole and Scott Breseman

May 28
Kaylee Brooke to Nicole and Beauman Trego

May 30
Thea Fern to Nanette and Mark Christofferson

Air Force creates program to aid professional spouses

By Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Military spouses with professional careers are at a disadvantage in advancing up the career ladder because of frequent and sometimes unpredictable military relocations, said Shontelle Rivers, chief of Family Policy and Financial Programs, Air Force Family Matters, Headquarters Air Force.

To overcome this obstacle, the Air Force is establishing the Professional and Executive Employment Resource Services as part of its Career Focus Program.

According to Rivers, PEERS is designed to assist spouses with mid-to senior-level professional or executive experience in finding commensurate employment.

“Many spouses choose to travel with their active duty member to keep the family unit together,” she said. “Therefore, they forfeit their accrued benefits — seniority in the workplace and retirement benefits — with every move. What we hope to accomplish with PEERS is to alleviate some of these hardships by enabling our spouses to get well connected into the new community as quickly as possible.”

To do this, we are trying to create a team of community and corporate

leaders who are willing to serve as professional career mentors to our military spouses with professional or executive experience, Rivers said.

“We implemented PEERS as a one-year test program at a few bases and it was very successful,” she said. “At year end, we had a 90 percent placement rate with the majority of spouses obtaining employment within six months of entering the program. There was an overall 70 percent placement level satisfaction rate as a result of the services offered through PEERS.

“When asked how they felt about their military lifestyle prior to and following this service, most spouses expressed stronger more positive feelings about the Air Force as a direct result of PEERS,” she said.

This service will not be available immediately at all installations, Rivers explained. “Bases are slowly implementing the PEERS program because it takes a lot of time and resources to develop and establish the program foundation — the community and corporate mentors. Additionally, it may not work well in all geographic locations, especially overseas.”

In locations where PEERS is not available, Rivers assures spouses that other CFP programs and resources will be available to help reduce the lag time between jobs or career building projects as a result of a permanent change of station move.

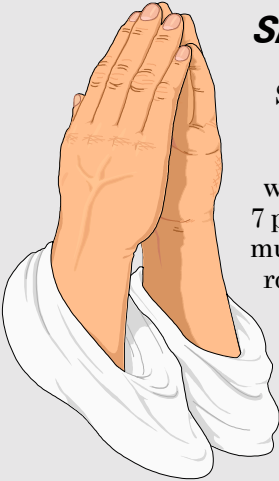
Chapel News

Worship schedule

The following is Luke’s Protestant and Catholic worship schedule:

- Protestant worship
- ♦ Holy Communion is Sunday at 8 a.m. at the Luke Community Chapel.
 - ♦ Gospel service is Sunday at 8:30 a.m. at the Chapel on the Mall.
 - ♦ Morning worship service is Sunday at 11 a.m. at the Luke Community Chapel.
 - ♦ Evening praise service is Sunday at 6 p.m. at the Luke Community Chapel.

- Catholic worship
- ♦ Saturday Mass is at 5 p.m. at the Luke Community Chapel.
 - ♦ Sunday Mass is at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. at the Luke Community Chapel.
 - ♦ Weekday Mass is at noon in the Luke Community Chapel.



Singles meet

The Luke Chapel Singles meets at 5 p.m. every Thursday in the fitness center for walleyball and at 7 p.m. in the Luke Community Chapel conference room for bible study.

For more information on these and other chapel programs, call 856-6211.

Around Base

Child care provider training

The family child care office conducts new provider training from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. June 19 to 21 at the FCC office, Bldg. 1137. For more information, call 856-7472.

Guard Start program begins

Session II of Guard Start, an American Red Cross program for 11 to 14 year olds to learn the roles and responsibilities of being a lifeguard, meets 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through June 16 at the Oasis Pool. Cost is \$30 and includes shirt and books. For more information, call 856-6267.

Children’s storytime

Children’s storytime is from 9:30 to 10 a.m. Thursday and June 22 and 29 in the base library. Thursday’s stories are about Father’s Day. Call 856-7191 to register.

Ethnic meals

The Ray V. Hensman dining facility features ethnic meals from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Wednesday in June. Scheduled meals include Italian Wednesday, Cajun-style June 21 and Mexican June 28.

Preteen game night

Children 6 to 12 years old can play a variety of games including board games, ping pong, basketball or bowl from 6:30 to 9 p.m. today at Bldg. 1143. Cost is \$3 per person. Appropriate shoes must be worn in the gym. For more information, call 856-6225 or 856-7470 for more information.

Teens in the Kitchen class

The youth center conducts a Teens in the Kitchen class from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Saturday for 13 to 18 year olds to learn about kitchen safety techniques, bal-

anced nutrition and safe food preparation. Spaces are limited to 10 people with military identification. For more information, call 856-6225 or 856-7470.

‘Battle of the Bands’

The community center hosts “Battle of the Bands” Saturday at 6 p.m. at Fowler Park. Bands compete for first-, second- and third-place prizes at the free event. For more information, call 856-7152.

June birthday meal

Airmen living in base dormitories and celebrating a birthday in June are invited to a special birthday meal at 5 p.m. June 22 in the Ray V. Hensman dining facility. Enjoy steak and lobster or steak and shrimp. Those who missed April’s birthday meal may attend the June meal. Sign up at the dining facility. For more information, call 856-6238 or 856-7329.

Teen Diamondbacks game

The youth center offers a trip for teens 13 to 18 to see the Diamondbacks play July 1. The group leaves the youth center at 11:30 a.m. and returns after the game. The cost is \$10. The trip is limited to 13 people. For more information, call 856-7470.

Youth art classes

The skills development center offers summer art classes for children ages 8 and older. Students learn various forms of art including crafts, ceramics and fine arts. The class meets six times per session. The cost of \$7 per class or \$35 per session includes materials. For more information, call 856-6722.

Comptrollers meeting

The American Society of Military Comptrollers Thunderbird Chapter meets Thursday at noon in Bldg. 1150 in the comptrollers conference room. Participants receive a free lunch and a tour of Detachment 1. Reservations must be made by Monday. For more information, call Liz Garey at 856-7778 or e-mail Dawn Powers at dawn.powers@luke.af.mil.

Talent Search 2000

Talent Search 2000 is June 23. Proceeds go to Operation Warm Heart. For more information, call 935-2610 or (480) 396-5361.

First Steps volunteers needed

The First Steps program needs volunteers. The program is Luke Hospital-based and trains volunteers to visit new parents directly after delivery of a baby. Volunteers provide parents with basic information about taking care of themselves, the infant and community resources available to them. Volunteers receive periodic training.
People interested in signing up or wanting more information, should call Mary Lou Duessel at 935-3047.

Wood frame class

A wood frame class meets at 2 p.m. Sunday and June 15 at the wood hobby shop. Students learn to build a wood frame. The cost of \$10 does not include supplies. For more information, call 856-6722.

West Valley Sharing Group

The West Valley Sharing Group made up of parents and professionals meets June 27 at 7:30 p.m. at St. James Catholic Church, 19640 N. 35th Ave. in Glendale. Respite care is provided. For more information, call Martha Vance at (602) 547-9855, e-mail her at ksvance@primenet.com or visit their website at www.psln.com/~sharing.

American Red Cross

- ♦ An American Red Cross new volunteer orientation is June 22 at 10 a.m. in Bldg. 1150, Room 1064. volunteer positions are open at the hospital, family support center, veterinarian clinic, transportation office, education center and at the Red Cross office.
 - ♦ An introduction to disaster class is June 20 from 6 to 9 p.m. in Bldg. 1150, Room 1064.
- For more information on these or other programs, call 856-7823.

La Leche League

La Leche League meets Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the community room of the Samaritan West Valley Health Center, 140 N. Litchfield Road. The league is a support groups that offers information and encouragement to mothers who breastfeed.

Smoking cessation

A smoking cessation class begins July 12. The six-week class meets Wednesdays from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at the health and wellness center. For more information or to register, call Maj. Linda McConnell at 856-3830.

Enlisted spouses club

The enlisted spouses club meets June 19 at 7 p.m. at the Desert Star Enlisted Club. The group meets the first Monday of each month for a board meeting and the third Monday for a general membership meeting. Active-duty and retiree spouses are encouraged to attend. For more information, call Linda Jenkins at 931-2315.

Stress management class

A stress management class meets Thursdays beginning June 29 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at the health and wellness center. People interested in participating, should call Frank Pavone at 856-3830.

USAF Helicopter Pilot Association

The U.S. Air Force Helicopter Pilot Association has a reunion Oct. 16 through 22 in Tucson and Phoenix. All present and former pilots are invited to this two-location reunion. For more information, write USAF HPA, Box 38036, Phoenix, Ariz. 85609; e-mail paul-air@primenet.com; send a fax to (602) 995-1363; or visit the website at USAFHPA.org.

Rio Salado counseling

Academic advisors are available by appointment Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays to discuss educational goals, courses, degrees and links to bachelor's degrees. For more information, call 856-3239.

Information,
Tickets and Tours

Information, Tickets and Tours is in the community center. Dillards Box Office and Ticketmaster are open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and closed Sunday. For more details, call 856-6000.

Tours

Nogales
A trip to Nogales, Mexico, leaves 6 a.m. June 17 and returns about 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$15. Travelers must carry picture identification. Food is available for purchase.

Grand Canyon
A trip to the Canyon leaves 5 a.m. June 17 and returns at about 9:30 p.m. In addition to a tour of the east rim, there is also a show at the Grand Canyon's IMAX theater and a window tour of Sedona. The \$50 cost includes transportation, tours and theater ticket. Food is available for purchase.

Laughlin
A trip to the Riverside Casino in Laughlin, Nev., departs at 6 a.m. and returns at about 10 p.m. June 18. The cost of \$5 includes transportation, champagne brunch or dinner buffet and coupons for casino action and gift shops. Participants must be at least 21 years old. Space is limited; register early.

Tickets

Tickets for a variety of community events, concerts, sporting events and theme parks are available. Call for locations, times and events.

Luke Movies

Movies begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Cost for children 11 and under is \$1; adults pay \$2.



Friday, Saturday

U-571 (R)
Stars Matthew McConaughey, Bill Paxton, Harvey Keitel and David Keith. The S-33, a vintage U.S. WWI submarine, is given another chance to prove its worth yet again, as the Americans enter World War II. The S-33 crew embarks on a dangerous mission, one which has the power to turn the tide of battle. Aboard the submarine is a large load of crates with unknown contents, contents which cannot be revealed until the submarine has cleared American waters. Once at sea, the mission is divulged. The submarine has been rigged to resemble a U-boat, a Nazi submarine which traverses the depths of the North Atlantic. They are to rendezvous with a stranded German submarine, pose as Germans and capture the Enigma machine, a top-secret coding device that could help the allies stop the incessant attacks by the Germans

at sea. The mission must be conducted in total secrecy, as seizing this device without the enemy’s knowledge is the only way for allied intelligence to decipher their movements and put an end to the enormous losses inflicted upon convoys carrying vital supplies across the ocean.



Sunday

Love & Basketball (PG-13)
Stars Sanoa Lathan, Omar Epss and Alfre Woddard. Quincy McCall and Monica Wright are childhood adversaries and talented athletes who have a love for the game of basketball and each other. As each pursues their dream of competing in professional sports, they must face their own respective hurdles. The story begins with Monica and Quincy as youngsters, when she moves in next door. Quincy is shocked to find she can play ball better than most guys. Later in high school Quincy sees Monica dolled up for the senior dance and discovers he is in love with his tomboy neighbor. They continue pursuing their respective basketball careers as college sweethearts until Quincy’s dad, an

NBA player, and Monica let him down. When Quincy announces he’s dropping out of college to turn pro and their romance is off, Monica wonders if “being all about ball” is worth losing the love of her life. But all’s fair in love and basketball, and the game isn’t over until the fourth quarter has been played.



June 16, 17

Frequency (PG-13)
Stars Dennis Quaid, Jim Caviezel and Andre Braugher. John Sullivan travels back in time to undo the events of Oct. 12, 1969, when the out-of-control Bruxton fire took the life of his father, a heroic firefighter. One day before the anniversary of his father’s death, in the midst of the spectacular storm known as the aurora borealis, John finds in the house he inherited his father’s old ham radio and begins to play with it. Through the electrical static, he finds himself talking to a man who claims to be a firefighter and who appears to be awaiting the World Series of 1969. Is John really talking to his own living father on the very same day, in the very same house, but exactly three decades ago?

Salutes

Scholarship winners

Two Team Luke NCOs were recently given Eagle Grant awards from the Frank Luke Chapter of the Air Force Association. Tech. Sgt. Richard Borough, 362nd Training Squadron, and Senior Airman Susan Walker, 56th Medical Group, received the grants May 19 at a luncheon in the Desert Star Enlisted Club. Each received a \$400 grant for their scholastic achievements. Eagle Grants are awarded to selected top Community College of the Air Force graduates who intend to continue their education by earning a bachelor’s degree.

Top parents

Three families recently received Positive Parenting awards, sponsored by family advocacy. The awards recognize parents who do an exceptional parenting job. The winning families are: Tech. Sgt. Michael Miley and his wife, Lorna. Miley is assigned to the 56th Component Repair Squadron. Tech. Sgt. Anthony Grizzard and his wife, Shonda. Grizzard is also assigned to the 56th CRS. Airman 1st Class Dawn Romero, 56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron.







Airman Julie Cordle

Gamblers Joe Faust just misses a catch Tuesday during an intramural softball game against the 56th Component Repair Squadron. CRS won the game, 13-9.

Softball

CRS buries Gamblers, 13-9

By Senior Airman J. Propst
56th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The 56th Component Repair Squadron buried the 21st Fighter Squadron Gamblers Tuesday during an intramural softball game at the base fitness center.

CRS immediately took advantage of the Gamblers fielding mistakes, when Dave Brazinsky hit a fly ball to left center, which was dropped, putting him on first. CRS's heavy hitters also made plays of their own. Dan Yeck hit one against the fence bringing in two runs. The CRS's outfield prevented the Gamblers from getting off to the same start. The Gamblers only managed to get one run, leaving CRS in the lead 5-1.

The second inning was not quite as thrilling. Though both teams managed to put a runner on third, neither team could get them home.

CRS increased their lead by one when Rolland Mills brought Eric Hale home after an amazing two-base hit on an earlier play during the top of the third. However, during the bottom of the inning the Gamblers gave CRS a run for thier money. Todd Osier, who hit one deep to left putting him on first, started the run. Then Matt Wright followed up by hitting a double. Mark

Staub brought them all home with a powerful homer over the left field fence. The Gamblers managed to bring one more home before the inning was over, closing CRS's lead to only one run, 6-5.

During the fourth, CRS began hitting again and scored three. But the score remained close since the Gamblers also brought three home.

CRS revived its scoring run from the first inning when Branzinsky brought home two runs with a deep hit to center that bounced off the fence. The rest of the team also brought in two runs, while they held the Gamblers to three batters with a double play. The inning ended with CRS leading, 13-8.

The Gamblers returned the favor in the sixth and last inning, when the outfield took care of the first two batters and the infield got the last batter. It looked like the Gamblers were going to come back when their first batter, Osier hit a home run. But the momentum didn't catch on and that was the only run scored. The game ended with CRS in the lead, 13-9.

"Our key players, Dave Marquez, Dave Drysdale, Eric Hale, Roland Mills and Dan Yeck, all came through in the clutch," said CRS coach Anthony Immekus. "Our strength is defense, whether it be by turning a double play or making a great catch in the outfield."

Sports Shorts

Bowl-a-thon

The company grade officers council and the first sergeants association sponsor a bowl-a-thon for the Valley Big Brothers and Big Sisters oranizations June 23 from 9 to 10 a.m. and again from 1 to 3 p.m.

Teams consists of five people and can get flat pledges or pin pledges. Contact squadron first sergeants for pledge sheets. Participants will receive free bowling, T-shirts, towels and entry into prize drawings.

Rugby

The coach of the Davis-Monthan Air Force Base rugby team is forming a combined Southwest Military Rugby Team to compete in the upcoming military nationals.

For more information on joining, call Dick Battock at (520) 886-7003.

Operation Night Hoops

The teen center sponsors Operation Night Hoops, a free program for teens. Basketball games are played Saturdays at 7 and 8 p.m. The youth center also seeks adult volunteer coaches and assistant coaches. For more information, call 856-7470 or 856-6225.

Softball tournament

The annual "Contracting Weekend Bash" softball tournament is July 22 and 23 in Tucson. The top four teams receive prizes and each player on the championship team receive their choice of a new glove or bat.

There is a reduced fee for early entry. For more information of to participate call Greg Manning at (520) 228-4190.

Father's Day bowling

Luke lanes has an extreme bowling special June 18 from noon to 4 p.m. Dads bowl free and those 18 and younger bowl for \$2.10 per game.

No hot water at fitness center

The fitness center does not have hot water through Tuesday while the water heater is being replaced.

Biking, hiking outing

Outdoor recreation sponsors a 12-mile downhill biking trip June 24 down Humphrey's Peak, the highest point in Arizona. The group spends one night camping at Fort Tuthill before hiking the upper Oak Creek Canyon and biking down.

The van departs June 24 at 6 a.m. and returns June 25. Participants must be at least 12 years old. The trip is limited to 12 people. For more information, call 856-6267.

Indoor soccer camp

The youth center sponsors a youth indoor soccer camp for children 6 to 12 from 1 to 4 p.m. July 17 to 21 in the youth center gym. The camp is limited to 50 participants. Cost is \$25. Register at the youth center or call 856-7470.



Larry McTighe

Vroom ...

More than 225,000 spectators were on hand to watch as the Air Force stock car made its racing debut May 28 in the Coca Cola 600 at Lowe's Motor Speedway, Charlotte, N.C. Dale Jarrett, driving Air Force car No. 88 finished fifth in the event, ahead of cars representing other military services. NASCAR has joined with all five branches of the armed forces to target its fans in support of military recruiting efforts through a special program called, "Tribute to Freedom in the Millennium."

Luke Falcons turn season around, win 5

The Luke Falcons varsity baseball team played six games in less than a week losing only one game, bringing their record above the .500 mark for the season at 10-6.

June 1, Luke traveled to Chandler to take on the Arizona Javelinas. Luke put their ace, Jason Cassidy, on the mound to give the Falcons the boost they needed to get back in the win column.

Cassidy didn't disappoint, going the distance and picking up the win giving up only one run on two hits and one walk. He also struck out 14 batters. Luke won the June 1 game, 8-1.

"Luke has gotten back into the groove and their balanced attack is starting to make opponents hang their heads," said coach Jeff Dahlke. "At this point we are hitting through-

out the line up and making the defensive plays to help our pitchers out. If someone is struggling someone else steps up, that is what makes a winner."

Cassidy picked up another win Sunday when he shut out the Phoenix 40s. He didn't need the run support, but he got it when Luke ran up 13 runs on 15 hits.

The Luke pitchers took control of the games. Picking up two wins

"Luke has gotten back into the groove and their balanced attack is starting to make opponents hang their heads."

Jeff Dahlke
Falcons coach

Saturday and Tuesday with John Gonzalez's help who had 10 strikeouts of his own.

Dahlke also picked up a win Sunday as a pitcher against the Phoenix Police Department team. After getting into a little trouble in the first inning, the defense stepped up and Luke got out of a no-out, bases loaded jam, only giving up one run. Things settled down, the hitting started and on the Falcons went to a 10-1 victory.

Their only loss came Sunday morning when the Falcons fought back hard from a five-run deficit, but lost in extra innings to the Peoria Tigers.

Luke finished the six games outscoring their opponents 63-20. Leading the way for the Falcons in hitting with a .446 average is Tom Flowers and not far behind is Jose Reyes at .428. The team batting average stands at .324, proving there is a balanced attack through the lineup. There are 10 hitters with an average of .300 or better.

Cassidy leads the team in wins with six, while Phil Banton leads with an ERA of 1.82. The pitchers have struck out 111 batters in 105 innings so far.

For more information on the team or games times, call Dahlke at 856-7092. *(Courtesy of the Luke Falcons.)*



Falcons Shawn Stegall beats the throw to third during Sunday's game. The Falcons played six games in one week, winning five.

